13.3 Young Adult Collection

A. Purpose: New Hanover County Public Library meets the reading and information needs of adolescents and their families, teachers and caregivers through a wide range of high-quality materials (see also 13.0 Collection Development). New Hanover County Library supports the American Library Association’s Free Access to Libraries for Minors and affirms “the responsibility and the right of all parents and guardians to guide their own children's use of the library and its resources and services."

B. Scope: The Young Adult collection supports intellectual and educational development as well as pleasure reading and consists of literary fiction, popular writing and nonfiction for this age group, defined by the Young Adult Library Services Association as 12-18. The Young Adult collection is distinguished from the Juvenile collection by the older reading audience, the use of adolescent concerns as dominant themes and/or topics, or a general assumption of a wider intellectual and emotional experience on the part of the reader.
   1) A variety of formats (print, audio and digital) are represented.

C. Responsibility for Selection: The Library Director delegates the management of Young Adult collection development activities to primary selectors designated from among the Children’s professional staff. Secondary selection responsibilities are then assigned to additional staff members.

D. Criteria for Selection: See 13.0 Collection Development (D); additional criteria include:
   1) Generally acknowledged classics of writing or illustration for adolescents.
   2) Suitability of subject, style, and difficulty for the intended audience.

E. Selection Tools: See 13.0 Collection Development (E); additional criteria include:
   1) Journals, websites, publisher catalogs and other critical review sources, with special emphasis given to sources specializing in material for adolescents.

F. Formats: See 13.0 Collection Development (F)

G. Consortia: See 13.0 Collection Development (G)

H. Interlibrary Loan: See 13.0 Collection Development (H)

I. Deselection: See 13.0 Collection Development (I)